

**From:** Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation  
**Subject:** Safety Intervention Grants, Workforce Safety Innovations, and more!

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# Ohio | Bureau of Workers' Compensation



## BWC reopens safety intervention grants

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) announced the reopening of the safety intervention grant (SIG) program to assist employers in purchasing equipment to protect their employees.

BWC's SIG program provides 3-to-1 matching funds up to \$40,000 to Ohio private and public employers covered by the State Insurance Fund who wish to purchase equipment to substantially reduce or eliminate injuries and illnesses associated with a particular task or operation. The SIG program allows BWC and Ohio employers to work together in establishing best practices for accident and injury reduction.

There is \$35 million available to employers across the SIG program including the School Safety and Security Grant, School Safety and Security – HVAC Grant, Trench Safety Grant,

Developmental Disabilities Grant, Drug-Free Safety Program Grant, Firefighter Exposure to Environmental Elements Grant, Body Armor Grant, and Workplace Wellness Grant.

Information on eligibility and policies for each grant can be found on the [SIG webpage](#).

## BWC awards \$1.4 million in grants for workforce safety innovations to the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center



Ohio Governor Mike DeWine announced that the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) has awarded The Ohio State University a \$1,477,489 grant for workforce safety innovations.

The grant is for The Buckeye Pause Bundle: Augmenting State of Mind and Body as the Ultimate PPT. It will include a mind-body exercise prompting system that will push personalized prompts to a participant's cell phone to encourage them to pause and engage in mind-body protective exercises based on reaching a given threshold of physiological readings from a wearable biofeedback device. It includes the development of stand-alone, soundproof mind-body exercise spaces to provide support while in high-stress, busy work settings.

## Upcoming program deadlines for public employers

Public employers interested in the [Drug-Free Safety Program](#), [Industry-Specific Safety Program](#), and [Transitional Work Bonus Program](#) must file an application by Nov. 30 for the program year beginning Jan. 1, 2023.

# Preventing COVID-19

COVID-19 prevention remains as critical as ever – and we must use all tools available to continue to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

Updated booster doses are now available and recommended for everyone 5 years of age and older to strengthen ongoing protection and fight the very contagious Omicron strain that is currently causing illness in our community.

If it's been at least two months since your primary series or your last booster, you can get the new fall booster. It doesn't matter how many doses you've already had.

If you have not been vaccinated yet, it's never too late to start your series. COVID-19 vaccines are recommended for everyone 6 months and older.

You can also receive other vaccinations during the same visit, including the flu shot.

Please call your provider for more information, or visit [gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov](http://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov).

## We want to hear from you!

Are there BWC services or programs you would like to learn more about? Do you have questions about forms or procedures? We want to hear from you about what you would like to see more of in our eNews. Send your comments to [feedback@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:feedback@bwc.state.oh.us).

### News Briefs

#### Public Employer True-up

Public Employers, True-up for the policy year beginning Jan. 1, 2022 through Jan. 1, 2023.

[The True-up report will be available online Jan. 1, 2023](#) with a due date of Feb. 15, 2023.

#### Ohio Safety Congress & Expo®

Save the date, the 2023 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo® will be back, live and in person at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, March 8-10, 2023.

### Important dates

**Nov. 30:** Public employer program application deadline. [More info online](#).

**Dec. 1:** In-person Training - Effective Safety Teams. [More info online](#).

**Dec. 1:** In-person Training - Respirators: Do we need them? [More info online](#).

**Dec 5:** In-person Training - OSHA 30: Construction Safety Principles. [More info online](#).

**Dec 6:** In-person Training - First Aid in the Workplace. [More info online](#).

**Dec 12:** Virtual Training - Trenching and Excavation. [More info online.](#)

## November edition of Safety Update

Check out [the latest news](#) from safety and health experts from BWC, NIOSH, and OSHA.

### Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

**Vision:** To transform BWC into an agile organization driven by customer success.

**Mission:** To deliver consistently excellent experiences for each BWC customer every day.

**Core Values:** One Agency, Personal Connection, Innovative Leadership, Relentless Excellence.

Established in 1912, the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation is the exclusive provider of workers' compensation insurance in Ohio, serving 257,000 public and private employers. With nearly 1,600 employees and assets of approximately \$21 billion, BWC is one of the largest state-run insurance systems in the United States. For more, visit [www.bwc.ohio.gov](http://www.bwc.ohio.gov).

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